

MORAN PATENT LAW OFFICE

333 EAST 43RD STREET
SUITE 909

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

—
(212)-986-5801

Patent Trademark and Copyrights

Facsimile (212)-986-5801
e-Mail WMORAN1@NYC.RR.COM

Ms. Janet Higgins
2231 Crystal Drive
Arlington, Virginia
22202

Dear Ms. Higgins:

As requested, enclosed please find copies of the two amendments in Serial Number 09/899,498. The amendment of November 13, 2003 is the same as the one of September 17th.

Unfortunately the copy of the September 17th amendment has a vertical line on the right side. I hope that it will not cause any problem.

With kindest regards.



William R. Moran

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/899,498

Filing Date: 07/05/2001

Inventor: Cynthia L. Bristow

Title: **DETECTION OF SURFACE -ASSOCIATED HUMAN LEUKOCYTE ELASTASE**

Examiner: David A. Saunders

Group Art Unit: 1644

AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents:

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 22, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend page 6, lines 12 to 22 to read as follows:

"The HLE on the plasma membrane of lymphocytes and mononuclear phagocytes is fairly well characterized. Thus, the epitopes characteristic of receptor structures, and their ability for accessible binding to an immunoreagent (e.g. antibody mimic), is simply a matter of choice. In one of the preferred embodiments of this invention, the immunoreagent suitable for use in the method of this invention is capable of immunochemical interaction with at least one of the catalytic triad of the HLE membrane surface proteins and the lipid interactive amino acids of the HLE membrane surface proteins. This catalytic triad of HLE (domain 1) is composed of amino acids His (41), Asp (88), and Ser (173). Lipid-interactive amino acids of the HLE (domain 2) is composed of amino acids Phe (170), Ala (187), and Arg (191); and these amino acids are proximal to the catalytic triad. The HLE specific immunoreagent for use in the